Service Date: October 3, 1983

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

| IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF |) | |
|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------|
| THE MONTANA POWER COMPANY FOR |) | |
| AUTHORITY TO ISSUE AND SELL NOT TO |) | DOCKET NO. 83.7.43 |
| EXCEED 1,500,000 SHARES OF COMMON |) | ORDER NO. 5001 a |
| STOCK |) | |

On September 21, 1983, The Montana Power Company ("Applicant") filed with the Public Service Commission its verified Application, pursuant to Sections 69-3-501 through 69-3-507 of the Montana Code Annotated (MCA), seeking an order extending the period during which the 1,500,000 shares of Common Stock authorized to be issued by Order No. 5001 in this Docket from September 30, 1983 to December 31, 1983.

The Applicant states that, while the market for its securities has not, in its judgment, been suitably advantageous to date, it wishes to have the continuing opportunity to market them should suitably advantageous market conditions occur during the extended period.

Having considered the Application and being fully advised in the premises, the Commission makes the following:

FINDING OF FACT

That notice of the filing of the Application has been duly given; that due consideration has been given to the matters presented in connection therewith; and that the Application should be approved s hereinafter ordered.

CONCLUSION OF LAW

That the Application complies with MCA § 69-3-50l through 69-3-507, inclusive, and other laws of Montana, and the same should be granted as hereinafter ordered.

ORDER

At a session of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held in its office at 1227 11th Avenue, Helena, Montana, on October 3, 1983 there came before the Commission the Application above described. The Commission, being fully advised in the premises, makes and enters the following Orders:

IT IS ORDERED that the Application of the Applicant, The Montana Power Company, for an order extending the time during which the 1,500,000 shares of Common Stock authorized by Order No. 5001 in this Docket from September 30, 1983 to December 31, 1983 be granted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all other terms and conditions of Order No. 5001 in this Docket remain in full force and effect during the extended period.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION at Helena, Montana, this 3rd day of October, 1983, by a 4 - 0 vote.

THOMAS SCHNEIDER, Chairman

CLYDE JARVIS, Commissioner

HOWARD L. ELLIS Commissioner

DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

Madeline Cottrill

Secretary

(Seal)

NOTICE: Any interested party may request the Commission to reconsider this decision. A motion to reconsider must be filed within ten (10) days. See 28.2.4806, ARM.